



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application

Inventor: Hiroyuki ITO

Group Art Unit: 2181

Appln. No.: 09/890,940

Examiner: G. Auve

Filed: August 7, 2001

For: INTERRUPT MANAGEMENT APPARATUS AND INTERRUPT
MANAGEMENT METHOD

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1)

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Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

MAY 25 2004

Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

In fulfillment of 37 CFR 1.97(c)(1) and 1.97(e)(1), it is hereby certified that each item of information contained in the attached Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication (see the attached copy of a Japanese Office Action dated March 2, 2004) from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Ledbetter
Registration No. 28,732

Date: May 24, 2004

JEL/mat

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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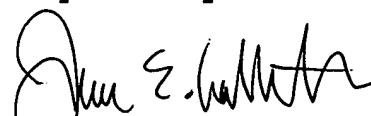
Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 99, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. Attached is a Japanese Office Action dated March 2, 2004 with a partial English translation thereof. JP '520 cited therein was filed in the Information Disclosure Statement of August 7, 2001.

Applicants present this art so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104 and 106. Applicants respectfully request that this art be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James E. Ledbetter".

James E. Ledbetter
Registration No. 28,732

Date: May 24, 2004

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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce
(Rev. 4/92) Patent and Trademark Office

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

MAY 24 2004

ATTY. DOCKET NO

L9289.01166

SERIAL NO.

09/890,940

APPLICANT

Hiroyuki ITO

FILING DATE

DATE August 7, 2001

GROUP

2181

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Japanese Office Action issued on a corresponding Japanese application on March 2, 2004.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.